

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 02635 260457 Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 AID-20 MC-02

EB-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ACDA-19

RSR-01 /110 W

----- 049363

R 251408 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECDEF WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4205

DIVENGR USAEDM LEGHORN IT// MDDVE//

COE RIYADH

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2635

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJ: MODA REQUEST FOR MILITARY VEHICLES

REF: A. JIDDA 2443 B. STATE 119102 C. DISTENGR IRYADH DTG 211014 Z
JUNE 73 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THOROUGHNESS WITH WHICH DOD HAS RE-
SEARCHED VEHICLE PROBLEM. IN 20 JUNE MEETING BETWEEN AMB AND
PRINCE SULTAN, SULTAN INDICATED DECISION HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE
ON STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED ONLY THAT MORNING.
HE CITED ONE OR TWO ALLEGATIONS OF STAFF CONCERNING PRINCE AND
AVAILABILITY AND STATED THAT IF EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH
SATISFACTORY ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS IT WOULD STRENGTHEN HIS
POSITION SHOULD HE GO TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WITH RECOMMENDATION
TO GO AHEAD WITH VEHICLE PURCHASE. TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO
REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS, SULTAN REQUESTED THAT SUSPENSE DATES
FOR
SALES CASES UIZ, UIL, UIM, AND PARTICULARLY UIK (WHICH EXPIRES
6/29) BE EXTENDED TO 31 JULY. EMBASSY
URGES FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

2. TO REFUTE STAFF ASSERTION THAT REBUILT VEHICLES COST MORE
NOW THAN NEW VEHICLES DID WHEN ORIGINALLY PURCHASED, EMBASSY
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 02635 260457 Z

AND COE RIYADH HAVE DRAWN UP TABLE SHOWING COMPARATIVE
COSTS OF NEW AND REBUILT VEHICLES AND WE BELIEVE WE CAN LAY THIS
ERRONEOUS ARGUMENT TO REST. AMBASSADOR WILL SEE SULTAN AT
FIRST OPPORTUNITY AND WILL URGE FAVORABLE ACTION ON
PENDING SALES CASES.
THHACHER

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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